REMARKS

This Response is being filed in response to the Office Action of March 3, 2009.

The Examiner has rejected applicants' claim 1 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Kobayashi (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0044758) publication in view of the Yatomi (U.S. Pat. No. 5,909,421) patent. The Examiner has also rejected applicants' claims 2, 3 and 8 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Kobayashi patent in view of the Yatomi patent and further in view of the Lane, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,377,051) patent. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections.

The Examiner has argued that the Kobayashi publication discloses a reproducing apparatus including reproducing means for reproducing moving image data for normal reproduction and image data for high-speed reproduction different from the moving image data for normal reproduction from a recording medium which records thereon moving image data train including the moving image data for normal reproduction which is encoded by intra-frame coding and inter-frame coding and the image data for high speed reproduction (Fig. 1; Fig. 2 normal and high speed reproduction; paragraph [0029] – MPEG-2 standard which includes both intra and inter frame coding), and a decoding means for selectively decoding one of the moving image data for normal reproduction and the image data for high-speed reproduction, each of which is reproduced by the reproducing means, according to the mode set by the mode setting means, wherein in the normal reproduction mode, the interface multiplexes and outputs in a form of encoded data the moving image data for normal reproduction and the image data for high-speed reproduction and the decoding means decodes the moving image data for normal reproduction (Fig. 2). The Examiner has acknowledged that the Kobayashi publication fails to disclose that in the high-speed reproduction mode, the

interface stops outputting the image data for high-speed reproduction and the decoding means decodes the image data for high-speed reproduction. However, the Examiner has argued that the Yatomi patent discloses that once the dubbing process is initiated, the VTR does a search using high-speed reproduction in order to find the starting point of the dubbing process (Fig. 5; Col. 8, lines 44-51) and that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have searched in high speed reproduction for the starting point of the dubbing process as disclosed by Yatomi in the apparatus disclosed by Kobayashi in order to more precisely record the program for the right amount of time.

Applicants have reviewed the Kobayashi publication and the Yatomi patent, and respectfully disagree with the Examiner's arguments. Firstly, applicants believe that the Kobayashi publication is completely silent as to reproducing of moving image data for normal reproduction and moving image data for high-speed reproduction that is different from the moving image data for normal reproduction from a recording media which records thereon moving image data train including the moving image data for normal reproduction and image data for high-speed reproduction. Specifically, the Kobayashi publication discloses a reproducing apparatus, formed as either a camera integral digital video recorder (100) or a digital video recorder (120), which is capable of reproducing audio and video programs (AV programs) in which video, audio and auxiliary data are multiplexed according to the MPEG-2 standard. Paragraph [0029]. Kobayashi also discloses that the reproducing apparatus (100 or 120) has two dubbing modes, including a usual or normal dubbing mode and a high-speed dubbing mode, in which AV programs recorded on a recording medium (104 or 121) are reproduced and transferred to an external apparatus (the other of 100 or 120). Paragraphs [0030]-[0032]; FIGS. 1-2. Kobayashi teaches that in either the normal dubbing mode or the

high-speed dubbing mode, a reproduction unit (105)of the reproducing apparatus reproduces MPEG-2 TS packet of the AV programs B and C being dubbed and the reproduced MPEG-2 TS packet is supplied to the digital interface 106 which generates isochronous packets from the reproduced TS packet based on the selected dubbing mode and transmits the isochronous packets to the external apparatus. FIG. 2; Paragraphs [0043]-[0044]; [0052]-[0058] and [0078]-[0083]. In the high-speed dubbing mode of Kobayashi, the reproducing apparatus reproduces the MPEG-2 TS packet recorded on the recording medium at a higher bit rate than in the normal dubbing mode, and the digital interface forms an isochronous packet from the MPEG-2 TS data that includes an N-multiple number of data blocks (4xN number of data blocks; N= dubbing speed) in the data field of the isochronous packet as compared to the number of data blocks in the isochronous packet in the normal dubbing mode. See FIGS. 2-4; Paragraphs [0074], [0083].

Thus, in Kobayashi, the image data reproduced by the reproduction unit from the recording medium during the normal speed and the high-speed dubbing operations is the same. That is, the apparatus of Kobayashi stores the same MPEG-2 TS image data packets on the recording medium for normal speed and for high speed reproduction, and the reproduction unit reproduces this image data during normal speed dubbing or during high-speed dubbing, with the image data being reproduced at a higher bit rate during the high-speed dubbing. There is no mention anywhere in Kobayashi of any image data recorded on the recording medium that is used specifically for high-speed reproduction and which is different from the image data used for normal reproduction.

Since Kobayashi does not teach reproducing of image data for high-speed reproduction that is different from image data for normal reproduction, Kobayashi also does

not, and cannot, teach an interface which multiplexes and outputs in a form of encoded data the moving image data for normal reproduction and the image data for high-speed reproduction and a decoding means which decodes the image data for normal reproduction. Instead, the interface in Kobayashi only outputs the image data for normal reproduction in the form of isochronous packets during normal speed dubbing, as well as during high-speed dubbing, and there is no multiplexing of two different image data for different reproduction speeds by the interface in Kobayashi. Further, the only multiplexing disclosed in Kobayashi involves multiplexing of digital video data, digital audio data and auxiliary data to form MPEG-2 TS packets that are stored on the recording medium, and there is no mention in Kobayashi of the interface multiplexing image data for normal reproduction with image data for high-speed reproduction different from image data for normal reproduction.

The Yatomi patent also does not teach or suggest reproducing moving image data for normal reproduction and image data for high-speed reproduction different from the moving image data for normal reproduction from a recording medium which records thereon moving image data train including the moving image data for normal reproduction which is encoded by intra-frame coding and inter-frame coding and the image data for high-speed reproduction, wherein in a normal reproduction mode, the interface multiplexes and outputs in a form of encoded data the moving image data for normal reproduction and the image data for high-speed reproduction and the decoding means decodes the moving image data for normal reproduction and wherein in the high-speed reproduction mode, the interface stops outputting the image data for high-speed reproduction and the decoding means decodes the image data for high-speed reproduction. In particular, the Yatomi patent discloses a reproducing apparatus, which reproduces data from a cassette that stores thereon video data, audio data

and subcode data, and which includes an interface DIF that converts reproduced video data and subcode data to data in predetermined format and transmits this data to an external VTR. See, Col. 4, lines 35-43; Col. 5, lines 24-26; Col. 6, lines 17-22; FIGS. 1-2. Yatomi teaches that when a dubbing routine is initiated, a microcomputer of the reproducing apparatus controls the reproducing apparatus to feed the tape at high speed to a pre-set dubbing start position, and then controls the reproducing apparatus and the external apparatus to pre-roll the tapes and places the reproducing apparatus in a reproducing mode and the external apparatus in a recording mode. See, FIG. 5; Col. 8, lines 36-51.

Thus, the Yatomi patent only discloses the reproducing apparatus that has a reproducing means for reproducing image data for normal reproduction and an interface means for outputting moving image data for normal reproduction to an external reproducing apparatus in the form of encoded data. There is no mention anywhere in Yatomi of the recording means, i.e. cassette or tape, having recorded thereon image data for normal reproduction and image data for high-speed reproduction different from the moving image data for normal reproduction. Instead, as shown in FIG. 2 of Yatomi, the tape has recorded thereon only one kind of image data, i.e. image data for normal reproduction, and there is no other image data that is used for high-speed reproduction recorded on the tape. Therefore, Yatomi does not, and cannot teach, reproducing moving image data for normal reproduction and image data for high speed reproduction different from the moving image data for normal reproduction from a recording medium.

Yatomi also cannot teach that in the normal reproduction mode, the interface (DIF) multiplexes and outputs in a form of encoded data the moving image data for normal reproduction and the image data for high-speed reproduction which is different from the

image data for normal reproduction. Rather, Yatomi teaches that in reproduction mode, i.e. normal reproduction mode, the interface DIF outputs in the form of encoded data only the moving image data for normal reproduction.

Furthermore, Yatomi makes no mention of two separate reproduction modes, i.e. normal reproduction mode and high-speed reproduction mode, or of a high-speed reproduction mode in which the interface stops outputting the image data for high-speed reproduction and the decoding means decodes the image data for high-speed reproduction. Rather, Col. 8, lines 44-51 of Yatomi, which the Examiner cited in the Action, only teach that when a dubbing operation is initiated and before the reproducing apparatus is placed in the reproduction mode, i.e. normal reproduction mode, the tape is fed at high-speed to a pre-set dubbing start position. The high-speed feeding of the tape in Yatomi is not a separate high-speed reproduction mode and there does not appear to be any reproducing being performed during this high-speed feeding of the tape. Instead, the high-speed feeding of the tape in Yatomi is performed merely to position the tape at the pre-set starting position. Also, even though there is no outputting of any image data by the interface while the dubbing is initiated and the tape is fed at high speed to the starting position, there is no mention in Yatomi of any decoding of the image data during this time. Accordingly, there is no teaching in Yatomi of a normal reproduction mode in which the reproducing means reproduces moving image data for normal reproduction and image data for high-speed reproduction and a high-speed reproduction mode in which the reproducing means reproduces the image data for high-speed reproduction, let alone any teaching of the normal reproduction mode, in which the interface multiplexes and outputs the moving image data for normal reproduction and image data for high-speed reproduction and the decoder decodes image data for normal reproduction and the

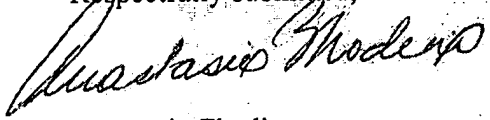
high-speed reproduction in which the interface stops outputting the image data for high-speed reproduction and the decoding means decodes the image data for high-speed reproduction.

Applicants' independent claim 1, which recites reproducing means for reproducing moving image data for normal reproduction and image data for high-speed reproduction different from the moving image data for normal reproduction from a recording medium, setting one of a normal reproduction mode in which the reproducing means reproduces the moving image data for normal reproduction and the image data for high-speed reproduction and a high-speed reproduction mode in which the reproducing means reproduces the image data for high-speed reproduction, and wherein in the normal reproduction mode, the interface multiplexes and outputs in a form of encoded data the moving image data for normal reproduction and the image data for high-speed reproduction and the decoder decodes the moving image data for normal reproduction, and wherein in the high-speed reproduction mode, the interface stops outputting the image data for high-speed reproduction and the decoding means decodes the image data for high-speed reproduction, and its respective dependent claims, patentably distinguishes over the Kobayashi publication and the Yatomi patent, taken alone or in combination. Moreover, there is nothing added by the Lane, et al. patent to change this conclusion.

In view of the above, it is submitted that applicants' claims patentably distinguish over the cited art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Dated: June 3, 2009

Respectfully submitted,



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